



*Office of Public Affairs  
U.S. Embassy, Wellington*

Wednesday 20 September, 2006

### **AMBASSADOR'S DAIRY FARM VISIT**

US Ambassador and passionate environmentalist Bill McCormick is visiting the Lincoln University Dairy Farm today to see first-hand some of the university's environmental research.

The Ambassador is particularly interested in any agricultural climate science projects that have the potential to contribute to the work being undertaken as part of the United States–New Zealand Bilateral Climate Change Partnership.

“Both countries are determined to show good stewardship of our planet -- and that requires addressing the serious long-term challenge of global climate change. International cooperation is crucial to developing an efficient, coordinated response to our global predicament,” said the Ambassador.

“By taking prudent environmental action at home and abroad, the United States is advancing a pro-growth, pro-development approach to addressing this important collective challenge. We are fortunate to have New Zealand as a partner in this effort,” he added.

Bilateral cooperation between the United States and New Zealand began in 2002 with the objective of enhancing and accelerating collaboration and practical cooperation on climate change issues.

The Partnership now encompasses dozens of projects covering a broad range of climate topics in nine priority areas: climate change science and monitoring; technology development; emission unit registries; greenhouse gas accounting in forestry and agriculture; engaging with business; developing country assistance; climate change research in Antarctica; public education initiatives; and development of joint product and process standards.

The Ambassador's visit to the Lincoln University Dairy Farm follows the recent meeting in Washington, DC, to review the progress of the US-NZ Bilateral Climate Change Partnership (August 29-30, 2006).

This fourth meeting of the Partnership focused on progress and achievement to date of joint activities and how best to continue support for ongoing projects. There were substantive exchanges on domestic approaches to addressing climate change in the

agricultural, forestry, and energy sectors and international climate change science, development, and policy issues.

“I’m delighted the US-NZ Climate Change Partnership provides an ongoing opportunity for both countries to work together and learn from one another. It’s just like Sesame Street teaches — cooperation really is the best way forward,” said the Ambassador.

The fifth meeting under the bilateral partnership will be held in New Zealand in 2007.